

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Status of Claims:

Claims 1, 3, 11 and 12 are currently being canceled.

Claims 2 and 4 are currently being amended.

No claims are currently being added.

This amendment amends and cancels claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claims remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 2, 4-10 and 13-19 are now pending in this application.

Indication of Allowable Subject Matter:

Applicant appreciates the indication of allowable subject matter made in the Office Action with respect to claims 2, 4-10 and 13-19. By way of this amendment and reply, claims 2 and 4 have each been placed in independent form to include the features of their respective base claim and any intervening claims. Therefore, claims 2, 4-10 and 13-19 are now believed to be in condition for allowance.

Objection to Title:

In the Office Action, the title of the invention was objected to, because it was not descriptive of the claimed invention. By way of this amendment and reply, a more descriptive title is being submitted.

Claim Rejections – Prior Art:

In the Office Action, claims 1, 3 and 11-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by JP 4-191878A to Itaya. Due to the cancellation of claims 1, 3 and 11-12, this rejection is now moot.

Conclusion:

Since all of the objections and rejections raised in the Office Action have been addressed in this Amendment and Reply, Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and an early indication of allowance is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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